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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM CBS Nightwatch

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SUBJECT Interview with FBI Director Webster

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM FRENCH SMITH: When you consider that the FBI has thousands of employees, that every now and then a rotten apple is bound to show up.

DIRECTOR WILLIAM WEBSTER: It's a very sad day for us. It's really only news because it has happened, to our knowledge, only this time.

FRED GRAHAM: We're back talking with FBI Director William Webster, now about spies.

And that little clip that we just saw was the occasion of the indictment of an FBI agent, Richard Miller, on charges. And I'm not going to get into that right now. And, of course, we won't specifically because he hasn't been brought to trial. And, of course, you wouldn't want to comment specifically about that.

But generally speaking, I can't remember a time when there have been so many spies caught recently and so many pending cases. Now, are there just a lot more spies, or are you catching mor of them, or is it both?

WEBSTER: Well, I think it's both. And like you, we can't remember a time. We've researched it. We're convinced that there have been more espionage cases brought this year than at any time in our history. And that includes the war years.

GRAHAM: Now, do you have any estimates about how many spies, how many Soviet agents you think there are?

WEBSTER: Well, some of those figures are classified, Fred, and I don't want to go too much...